GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1678
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2008
EXTRACTION OF GEM STONES
Oram Shri Jual

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) The quantum of Gemstones available in the country, State-wise, location-wise;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to explore Gem stones in the country including western Orissa;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and Union Territory-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for extraction of Gem Stones in some parts of the States including Orissa?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (Dr. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY)

(a): State-wise information on estimated deposits of gem stones is given in the Indian Minerals Year Book published by the Indian Bureau of Mines, a sub-ordinate office of the Ministry of Mines. A copy of this book has been supplied to the Parliament Library.

(b)& (c): Exploration of mineral resources including gem stones in the country is a continuous process. Exploration agencies like Geological Survey of India, National Mineral Development Corporation, Directorate of Geology & Mining, Orissa are actively engaged in exploration of gem stones in Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and particularly in Baragarh, Nuapada, Jharsuguda, Sundergarh, Sambalpur and Sonepur districts in Orissa.

(d): Mining of minerals depends broadly on availability of mineral resources, economic viability, demand of the market etc. The Central Government has been conveying prior approval for grant of mineral concessions for exploration of precious stones as per provisions of Mines and Minerals(Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 and Rules framed thereunder.